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RWB
Baker 19-3
2-21-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s): A.D. Baker et al.
Case: 19-3
Serial No.: 09/484,098
Filing Date: January 18, 2000
Group: 2157
Examiner: Gregory G. Todd

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Signature: *Denise A. Klaeser* Date: February 12, 2003

Title: Methods and Apparatus for Local Network
Address Acquisition, Analysis and Substitution

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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FEB 21 2003

Technology Center 2100

In response to the first Office Action dated November 19, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A/ --In accordance with the invention, a local area network (LAN) or other type of local network is interfaced with one or more external network elements via a gateway that implements an address substitution mechanism for ensuring that communications between devices attached to the local network are not routed through an external network as a result of, e.g., disparity in their remotely-assigned IP addresses. In accordance with the invention, the gateway is configured to intercept